

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 100

By Curtiss

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Floyd Bransford England on the celebration of his eightieth birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Bransford England will celebrate his eightieth birthday on February 26, 2007, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, the son of Henry Marcum and Maggie Narcissa Brown England, Bransford England was born and raised in White County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, on October 12, 1959, Bransford England was called to preach at Helton Creek Baptist Church, and he was ordained on September 25, 1960, at Macedonia Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, in September of 1961, Mr. England was called to pastor Friendship Baptist Church in Warren County; from 1961 to 1966, he preached the second and fourth Sundays at Macedonia Baptist Church, while also preaching at New Union Baptist Church in DeKalb County every third Sunday of the month, beginning in 1963; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, Elder Ernest McBride and Bransford England founded Tabernacle Baptist Church in Smithville, first holding services in a store building until May of 1966 when the church moved into its new building; Mr. England pastored at Tabernacle Baptist Church two Sundays a month from 1967 to 1971; and

WHEREAS, Bransford England entered the ministry on a full-time basis in 1971, when he accepted the position as pastor of Union Baptist Church; during his twenty-seven year tenure

at Union Baptist Church, Mr. England baptized 261 people, performed numerous weddings, and conducted many funerals; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, Bransford England has lent his considerable skills and expertise to the organization of numerous churches, including New Town Baptist Church, The Pilgrim Baptist Church, Burgess Falls Road Baptist Church, and Hubbards Cove Baptist Church; in August of 1994, Mr. England was asked to come and help Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, and he still remains the church's pastor today; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Tennessee, Bransford England has preached in the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, Arkansas, and Oklahoma; he has preached in over eighty churches, returning for repeated revivals in several of these churches; he has also held four tent revivals and carried on a radio ministry for five years; and

WHEREAS, on May 16, 2003, Mr. England received his Doctor of Divinity degree from Faith Baptist Institute and Bible College in Reseca, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, for forty years, Bransford England served with acumen and alacrity as an electrical inspector for the State of Tennessee, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. England has served on the O'Connor Utility Board since November of 1981 and the County Court for the past four years; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 1950, Floyd Bransford England was joined in marriage with Ruth Helon Johnson, and the couple's blessed union produced three children, Joe Basil England, Henry Lesel England, and Gerald Wayne England; nine grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, as he approaches his ninth decade, Bransford England is still an active and productive member of society, participating in various civic and community events, as his health permits; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Floyd Bransford England on the celebration of his eightieth birthday and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.